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AGREEMENTS ON FINANCING, COMPONENTS OF ITAIPU BINATIONAL

$175 Million Loan

PY111542Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Jul 78 p 10 PY

[Excerpt] Itaipu Binacional yesterday signed a loan contract for $175 million. The directors general of the Paraguayan-Brazilian enterprise, Enzo Debernardi and Gen Jose Costa Cavalcanti, signed the contract in New York with the financial consortium headed by the Citicorp International limited (agent), the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York and the Compagnie Financiere of the Deutsche Bank AG.

The loan will be used for the hydroelectric plant being built by the governments of Paraguay and Brazil on the Parana River.

The guarantee for the loan was given by the national treasury of Brazil.

Turbines for 100-105 Meters

PY121756Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jul 78 p 17 PY

[Excerpts] The turbines for Itaipu will be designed to produce electricity at a 100- to 105-meter height. Thus, Brazil has definitively set the limits on the Corpus height. This decision was made public after a meeting between Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki and Osvaldo Ballarin, president of the Electromechanical Industrial Consortium (CIEM). The minister requested that the timetable for the delivery of equipment be strictly complied with and that the equipment be submitted to rigid quality control.

The board of directors of the Itaipu Binational Enterprise is taking steps for the down-payment of $70 million (10 percent of the total order value of $700 million) to CIEM.

In a meeting at Foz do Iguacu on 17 July, the board of directors will pick the company which is to furnish the floodgates for the hydroelectric plant. This order amounts to $50 million (900.3 billion cruzeiros at current exchange rate).

The reevaluation of the Itaipu project cost will also be discussed at that meeting. That cost is estimated to have gone up by 10 to 15 percent over the $7.6 billion estimated last year. With this reevaluation, the Itaipu financial directorate will be in the position to program the financing for 1979. An expendirute of $1 billion has been programed for 1978, and it has already been obtained.

Itaipu is maintaining contacts with the central bank and the Finance Ministry to obtain the subscription of another $250-million credit by this September or October.

Another decision made public by Itaipu yesterday has to do with the creation of the Paraguayan Electromechanical Consortium (CIE), which is to supply 5 percent of the mechanical equipment needed for the hydroelectric plant.

CIE is to consist of seven Paraguayan industries and it will manufacture 5 percent of the equipment needed using know-how from Brazilian companies. The purpose in creating the Paraguayan consortium is to initiate the installation of a national pool of capital goods industries in Paraguay, with the commitment of Brazilian industries to provide complete technical assistence.

VIDELA VOWS TO DEFEND PATAGONIA AGAINST THREATS

PY122358Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, commander in chief of the Argentine Army, today reasserted the armed forces' commitment to protect the integrity of Patagonia as part of the Argentine nation by thwarting the actions of those who may want to separate it from within or seize it from abroad.

General Videla also urged the region to contribute its creativity and potential to the well-being of the nation. He made these remarks during an impromptu speech today at the parade ground of V Corps headquarters which he visited as part of his farewell tour before going on reserve status.

CHILEAN AMBASSADOR SAYS NEGOTIATING ATMOSPHERE IMPROVED

PY120341Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0150 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jul--Upon being asked about the development of Argentine-Chilean negotiations on the southern border conflict, Chilean Ambassador Sergio Onofre stated shortly before returning to his country today that "it would seem to me that the atmosphere has cleared up significantly. There are no more statements from persons interested in promoting conflicts."

Further on, Onofre said: "You know that those who speak about and fuel conflicts rarely go to war. Those who have to go to war are always peace loving. Sitting comfortably in your office or home you hear that there are many people who say a lot of inappropriate and unfriendly things to promote clashes and problems. Happily, all this is over now. I believe that the subject has been dealt with much more calmly and that prospects for a solution are good."

Asked about statements of the Chilean foreign minister that Argentina was making things difficult by restricting trade with Chile, for example, Ambassador Onofre stated: "It is true we have been able to establish that restrictions had been placed on a number of Argentine exports to Chile, restrictions which naturally constitute a new element for us."

He added: "We had expected that these negotiations might be subject to pressures or restrictions of this kind. In any case," he said, "from the point of view of Chile's economy it is unimportant because we can purchase these products elsewhere. However, there are both Chilean and Argentine firms which have felt the impact of these restrictions and talks are underway to lift them, although, as I have already said, they have no decisive effect on us. However, they can hardly be considered helpful to any negotiation."

Just before he left Ezeiza, where he was seen off by airport Director Col Ataliva Fernandez, Ambassador Sergio Onofre did not deny that there is a possibility of a new meeting between Presidents Videla and Pinochet at the end of the negotiations of the second Argentine-Chilean commission. However, he did not say where, when or how this meeting would take place.

HIGH-RANKING OFFICERS SAY PINOCHET SPEECH HOSTILE

PY121439Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1152 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jul--Chilean President Augusto Pinochet maintains a hostile line which challenges the countries having borders with Chile, high-ranking Argentine officers have stated here.

This was the interpretation of Argentine officers regarding the speech delivered by Pinochet yesterday during a rally of youngsters supporting his government, according to a report by the Argentine press.

Pinochet's emotional attitude, very different from that of the Chilean public and its leading classes, make him operate within a totalitarian context, and his only aim seems to be consolidation of his domestic front, even by attributing to countries which are linked to Chile by geography and history intentions which they do not have, the military sources stated here.

According to the local interpretation, Pinochet's attitude tends to challenge countries like Argentina or Bolivia, which have border problems with Chile, or like the United States, which exerts obvious pressure on the Santiago government.

Regarding Chile's claim regarding restrictions imposed by Argentina on sales to Chile, the newspaper LA OPINION--under government intervention--stated today that there were no reasons to stop such restrictions, which were advisable for Argentine security.

ISRAEL'S GUR DENIES SALE OF ARMS TO CHILE

PY112331Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2140 GMT 11 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 11 Jul--Gen Mordechai Gur, former commander in chief of the Israeli army, denied here today having arranged a sale of arms to Chile. With regard to the purchase of small naval units by Argentina, he merely stated that "our torpedo boats [lanchas de guerra] are excellent and should anyone buy them he would be making a wise deal."

He added, however, that "the decision to buy or sell is up to the governments," clearly disclaiming any responsibility in the matter.

The retired military officer who commanded the Entebbe operation, which led to the release of Jewish hostages in the capital of Uganda, made these statements during a press conference which he held today at the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires. During this press conference he also discussed the Middle East situation, international antiterrorist actions and the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

General Gur also said that he hoped that U.S. President James Carter would change current U.S. policy in the Middle East "because we cannot give up, since this would endanger our existence."

General Gur also spoke of the difference between U.S. foreign policy under the current administration and the one that preceded it.

He said: "Kissinger supported a slow process of peace negotiations, believing that a favorable atmosphere could lead to important achievements; Brzezinski (President Carter's current adviser) demands a final solution and its implementation by stages." He indicated that "there is an essential difference between the two, and in my opinion Kissinger's method was a realistic political method, while Brzezinski's is a method of a college professor."

With regard to the presence of Cuban soldiers in the Middle East, Gur indicated that a brigade of these soldiers had been detected in Syria during the Yom Kippur war. "The Cubans may be a danger to Angola," added Gur, "but not to Israel. Besides, I would suggest that we stop treating them as if they were legends."

General Gur also indicated that he favored joint action against international terrorism, "always bearing in mind the independent status of the various countries." He said: "Israel favors international cooperation in the war against terrorism."

General Gur concluded by stating that "there is no true control against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. We have had reports that Iraq is about to put into operation a nuclear reactor for military purposes. In any case, attention must be paid to the development of conventional weapons as well."

BRIEFS

MEAT TO ARAB WORLD--Buenos Aires, 6 Jul--The area coordinator of the Argentine Corporation of Meat Producers (CAP) has reported that CAP is planning to open new markets in the Arab world, beginning with Saudi Arabia, where cold storage bins and a meatpacking plant will be built in order to keep the area supplied with Argentine products. Regarding how the products will be transported, he said that the Maritime Interests Secretariat, through the Argentine Shipping Lines (ELMA), has promised to establish a regular line from Buenos Aires to Kuwait in order to supply the centers of distribution in the Arab world. Regarding the time of navigation, he said that it will be approximately 25 days and that the cold storage bins will be large enough to permit normal distribution of the products. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1517 GMT 6 Jul 78 PY]

STATE ENTERPRISE CHANGES STATUS--Through Decree No 1,444, based on Law No 20,705, the executive branch has changed the status of the State Gas Company. It is now to be known as the State Gas Corporation [Gas del Estado Sociedad del Estado], thus becoming a full-fledged corporation owned by the state, replacing the former autonomous state enterprise. [Buenos Aires LA RAZON in Spanish 5 Jul 78 p 8 PY]

NEW NAVY REGION--Sarate, Buenos Aires--The Argentine Navy has created a new navy region, headquartered at the Sarate navy arsenal. The commander of this new navy region is Capt (Sergio Wilprado). [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Jul 78 PY]

WINE TO SOVIET UNION--Buenos Aires, 10 Jul--Eight million liters of wine will be shipped to the Soviet Union next Friday. This shipment is part of a total of 40 million liters bought from Bodegas Argentinas Giol through the Soviet Embassy here. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0333 GMT 11 Jul 78 PY]

PEREDA ASBUN SAID TO HAVE ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

PY130305Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The official presidential candidate, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, has passed the percentage needed to obtain an absolute majority in the partial returns of the Bolivian elections, which the opposition and foreign observers have labeled fraudulent.

Pereda, whose probable electoral victory was proclaimed as final by the center-right coalition which supports him, today had 58.6 percent of the total votes counted by the National Electoral Court.

According to the last official report released by the Electoral Court, of a total of 1,128,502 votes, the major presidential candidates received the following number of votes: Gen Juan Pereda Asbun of the People's Nationalist Union, UNP, 663,502 votes or 58.6 percent; Hernan Siles Zuazo of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front, FUDP, 437,382 votes or 38.6 percent; Gen Rene Bernal Escalante of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, 139,796 or 12.3 percent; and Victor Paz Estenssoro of the National Revolutionary Movement, MNR, 130,039 votes or 11.5 percent.

The total number of votes counted represents 68 percent of the official national total of 1,956,932 voters. Having received 663,502 votes, Pereda passed the absolute majority, 51 percent, which the electoral law established as the minimum required by any candidate to become constitutional president.

As 32 percent of the votes must still be counted, the military candidate must maintain this majority to become president and assume the presidency on 6 August, the anniversary of national independence.

These partial results have also eliminated the possibility of a second election, which the opposition was trying to get in order to prevent Pereda's victory. The coalition of the opposition headed by FUDP candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo was trying to prevent Pereda's absolute majority in order to have an election in Congress, which he believed he could control. According to partial computations, the opposition groups of Hernan Siles Zuazo, Rene Bernal Escalante and Victor Paz Estenssoro won four departments of the nine in the country. Pereda won five departments but runs the risk of losing control of Congress whose 138 seats will be allotted on the basis of 80 percent for the majority and 20 percent for the minority, which the law gives to candidates of the first and second place parties in each department.

An unofficial study of the distribution of seats in Congress, in accordance with the last partial computaition, gives 72 seats to the three opposition groups and 66 seats to Pereda's political coalition. If this trend is maintained, the FUDP of Siles Zuazo will have 47 seats, 6 senators and 41 deputies. The PDC of Bernal will have (?13) senators and 10 deputies and the MNR of Paz Estenssoro only 2 deputies. In Congress Pereda will have the support of 66 legislators, 12 senators and 44 deputies, according to this unofficial distribution based on the partial computations.

REPORTS OF ELECTION VIOLATIONS BRING REACTIONS

Process Characterized as 'Crooked'

PY121834Y La Paz Radiodifusora Cristal in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] The international observers who arrived in the country to witness the electoral process have released a document in which they give their opinions on last Sunday's elections. Guillermo Galeote was in charge of reading the four-point document:

[Begin Galeote recording] 1. The electoral law has numerous flaws which limit the free and sovereign expression of the people. The decrees reforming that electoral law are basically inadequate, apart from being an important juridical anomaly which [word indistinct] the unity of the law and suppress the guarantees granted by the same law. We give the following examples below:

a. The appointment of members of the Electoral Court. Regarding this we would like to say that the Electoral Court should be appointed by the legislative branch, but in the absence of a legislative branch they were appointed by the executive branch.

b. The prohibition of labor leaders' participation in the popular election.

c. The use of multicolor ballots and the responsibility of the political parties for distributing them. In our opinion, the procedure of a single-color ballot should have been used, and the electoral courts themselves should be responsible for their distribution.

d. The nonapplication of the proportional representation system makes it impossible for all minorities to be democratically represented.

2. Regarding the electoral process, certain irregularities have been verified (?which we mention) in the hope that they will be taken into account in the future as indispensable prerequisites for the full democratic expression of the Bolivian people:

a. The inequality among political groups regarding access to communications media, particularly television.

b. In the course of the electoral process we have observed the inconsistency of certain political parties because of [passage indistinct] equality of opportunities in this important electoral process.

c. Numerous charges have been verified, referring to the support from officials for a certain candidacy. In connection with this subject it would be useful for the public to learn of numerous (?charges) made by several political groups.

d. Irregularities have also been verified in the electoral register, basically the (?suppression) of all registers through the suppression of the (?bulletin) stipulated in the electoral law.

e. On election day the great majority of us international observers received direct and (?authentic) proof [words indistinct].

a. The transfer of voters in government vehicles, which is against the electoral law.

b. The absence of ballots for some candidates, while there was observed a large abundance of green ballots [the ballot for People's Nationalist Union].

c. The presence of troops at polling places. Also, the penetration by members of the People's Nationalist Union in electoral offices [words indistinct].

d. Violent actions, such as murders, attacks, intimidations and threats of reprisals during the electoral process against members of political parties and their relatives.

e. Illegal confiscation of ballot boxes by government vehicles before the ballots were counted; their whereabouts are still unknown.

4. The international observers jointly and individually state their admiration for the great political maturity of the Bolivian people who seek to introduce Bolivia to the democratic norm which should reign in Latin America. They also express their concern over the signs now existing to ignore the result of the election. [end recording]

We have just heard the document written by the nine international observers who represent nine organizations defending human rights. The international observers then made charges of a number of irregularities which had been committed during the electoral process. They maintained that they had verified acts of moral coercion and violence, and the carrying away of balloting boxes by troops at [place names indistinct] and other places. Robert Goldman said he had been able to verify an "inelegant and crude fraud." This U.S. representative said that all he had observed of the situation will be reported to the U.S. ambassador to Bolivia. Paul Boeker, so he can give a detailed report to the State Department in Washington.

The British representative, Lord Eric Avebury, stated that he will report to his government on the irregularities which had been found during the elections in this country so that the granting of a $30-million credit for the mining sector would be duly conditioned. He also reported on the meeting he had with members of the Mineworkers Federation, with whom he had spoken about the same subject.

The international observers also stated that they have clear proof that the armed forces are biased in favor of Gen Juan Pereda Asbun's candidacy. They said that particularly in the Cochabamba valley and in the Chapare region they had observed the presence of army troops who terrorized the population.

The general opinion of the observers was summarized by Sir Eric Avebury in the following way:

[Begin Avebury recording] Nobody here knows the meaning of democracy. This election is completely fraudulent from beginning to end. [end recording]

The group of observers then visited Julio Mantilla, president of the National Electoral Court.

[Buenos Aires HERALD in English on 12 July, page 1, quotes Lord Avebury as saying: "The election was as crooked as a piece of barbed wire."]

Government Rejects Accusations

PY121850Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1825 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 12 Jul--In a communique released today, the Bolivian Government rejected accusations made by international observers which alleged fraud in the recent elections.

The government vigorously maintained that "foreigners, whatever their position or whatever they represent, cannot be allowed to meddle in matters which solely and exclusively concern Bolivians" and also questioned the validity of the observations which have been published, since they have been made by persons invited by the self-styled Bolivian Human Rights Assembly.

The government reaction is the result of statements by the nine international observers who were present during the Bolivian elections and then issued a communique in which they stated that they have sufficient proof to assert that electoral fraud has been committed.

Contested Ballot Boxes

PY121354Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Ballot boxes from La Paz Department against which objections have been raised will not be counted, according to an agreement which has been reached between the National Electoral Court and members of the Democratic and Popular Unity Front. This was reported by (Marco Somich), a leader of that political group who said that electoral fraud may possibly be controlled through that measure.

He also said that no one carrying arms may enter the offices of the municipal library, where the ballots from La Paz Department are now being counted.

POLICE OCCUPY LA PAZ UNIVERSITY AFTER RECTOR FIRED

PY121457Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1421 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 12 Jul--The state university of this city was occupied by 100 policemen early this morning. This is the largest university in the country, with 18,000 students.

The police operation took place a few hours after the National Council of Higher Education [CNES] dismissed rector Hugo Mansilla, who did not follow the instructions given him by the organization, which decreed that La Paz University was to go into academic recess.

Mansilla told the local press, before he was dismissed, that university activities were going to continue because CNES did not consult him on the decision to go into recess due to the country's general elections held on 9 July.

$1.25-BILLION TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH GDR

PY121523Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jul 78 p 16 PY

[Excerpts] Brazil and the German Democratic Republic have signed a memorandum of understanding for $1.25 billion in trade over the next 3 years. Itamaraty said that this represents "a significant expansion of Brazilian trade with East Europe." In the terms of this memorandum, trade in both directions will increase by 250 percent.

The memorandum was signed in East Berlin last Friday by a Brazilian delegation headed by Ambassador Joao Paulo do Rio Branco, chief of Itamaraty's Europe department, and thus ended negotiations initiated 3 months ago in Brasilia. Those negotiations took place when the foreign trade minister of the GDR visited Brazil and they contemplated the exchange of manufactured goods for raw materials.

During the Brazilian delegation's stay in East Berlin, representatives of the Bank of Brazil and of the Finance Ministry successfully negotiated the granting to Brazil of a $200-million credit for the purchase of machinery and equipment from the GDR. The Brazilian interest in this credit is understandable since most of the port's mechanical installations, such as cranes and lift tractors, now in Brazil came from the GDR.

The mission headed by Ambassador Rio Branco is now in Bulgaria. It will go to Poland and Hungary, with the objective of determining the existence of interest in stepping up business. Poland, by the way, is the East European country with the highest business volume with Brazil, thanks to a memorandum which is identical to the one Brazil has now signed with the GDR. The memorandum with Poland offered reasonably good results although it did not succeed in bringing business up to expected volumes.

Brazil's trade with East Europe had always been subject to a factor Itamaraty never succeeded in removing: The ideological factors always slowed down business and prevented Brazil from making greater purchases. Consequently, the annual balances always registered high surpluses in Brazil's favor. This, of course, was a significant result for Brazil over the short term, but not over the medium term because the socialist countries felt no stimulus for buying with their trade balance in growing deficits. This situation set the tone for any subsequent negotiations with East European countries. Their governments kept telling Brazil "to buy more so that we can buy more also."

In recent years, the GDR ranked fifth among Brazil's East European trade partners. The following are trade figures, in million of dollars, over a 3-year period--figures which may reach $400 million per year in both directions from 1978 through 1981:

	Brazil to GDR Export	Brazil from GDR Import
1975	50.8	34.1
1976	78.7	25.8
1977	121.6	53.0

POLAND TO BUY $1 MILLION WORTH OF TEXTILES

PY121603Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Jul 78

[Text] The industry and commerce minister has revealed that Brazilian and Polish businessmen have signed contracts for the sale of Brazilian textile products worth $1 million. He also announced that the Poles have bought citrus juices for an undetermined sum.

O ESTADO SEES WEAKENING OF TIES WITH URUGUAY

PY110004Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Jul 78 PY

[By M.W.]

[Text] Buenos Aires--Local political observers believe that the resignation of Uruguayan Foreign Minister Alejandro Rovira and his replacement by Adolfo Folle Martinez may indicate that the Uruguayan Government is leaning toward Argentina and breaking its diplomatic ties with Brazil. To support their statement the analysts recall that the new foreign minister was recently the head of the Uruguayan diplomatic mission in Buenos Aires and that his swearing-in speech emphasized the principles of "respect, self-determination and nonintervention in domestic affairs of other nations."

These same sources add that Rovira's resignation is merely a side effect of a military crisis which had its crowning point in the arrest of Gen Amalri Brandl, head of the intelligence service and believed to be "the military officer closest to Brazil." At the same time it was heard in Montevideo that a large group of armed forces officers was concerned with Brazil's cultural influence on the borders.

The Uruguayan military officers appear to be thinking "about implementing a policy aimed at defense of the nation's unity," and seem to be concerned with "a center of Brazilian cultural penetration in the north," as well as "the attraction which Brazil has for highly qualified Uruguayan manpower." Should these reports be confirmed they would indicate a "pendular policy" which is swinging closer to Argentina than to Brazil.

MAGALHAES PINTO DENIES BREAK WITH BENTES MONTEIRO

PY122130Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Arter meeting with Gen Hugo Arbreu to analyze the present political situation, Senator Magalhaes Pinto said that both he and the National Redemocratization Front are doing very well and the situation has not stopped or even slowed, as reported.

Magalhaes Pinto also denied rumors that he had broken or will break relations with Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro and will again be candidate for Minas Gerais, saying that Petronio Portela told the press that the slate in his state was complete.

Magalhaes Pinto yesterday refused to give his support to Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro as president of the republic, noting: He wants my support and that of the Brazilian Democratic Movement. To have my support, my acquiescence is needed, and I will fight as long as I can.

SPANISH PSOE LEGISLATORS MEET WITH [illegible]

PY111930Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Visiting Spanish Socialist legislators have acknowledged that they now have a better idea of the Chilean situation. They said they were quite pleased with the cooperation they had obtained from Chilean authorities. The three Spanish legislators, Luis Yanez, Rafael Escudero and Carmen Therfsall, held a meeting at noon today with Justice Minister Monica Madariaga. During the meeting they requested judicial aid to discover the whereabouts of former legislator (Carlos Lorca) and two Spanish citizens whose last names are (Miro) and (Pena).

In this regard Rafael Escudero, foreign policy coordinator for the Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE], stated: [recorded passage indistinct]

Escudero noted that before leaving for Chile they received a complete report from PSOE Secretary General Felipe Gonzalez regarding the Chilean situation, but that now he has a better opinion of the Chilean situation. [recorded passage indistinct] Escudero noted that they received complete cooperation and acted with complete freedom during their negotiations in Chile, even more than they had originally expected. [begin Escudero recording] Well, I would say that all our negotiations in Chile were characterized by frankness. [passage indistinct]

At the end of the meeting with the Spanish legislators, Justice Minister Monica Madariaga gave her opinion of the meeting. [begin Madariaga recording] The meeting was extremely cordial. These are young and intelligent gentlemen. They are idealists and I respect their ideals very much. I had the honor of meeting PSOE leader Felipe Gonzales during his recent visit to Santiago and it was a very frank and open meeting. We exchanged opinions on several issues in which they were interested and regarding economic and technical issues. [sentence indistinct] [end recording]

At this time the three Spanish legislators are meeting with Cardinal Silva Henriquez and for the following hours they have scheduled meetings with the Supreme Court president and authorities from the Interior and Foreign Relations ministries.

Information on Spaniards Sought

PY121732Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0331 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 Jul--A Spanish priest is among the people who are missing and who were presumably detained in Chile, three Spanish deputies who are visiting Chile stated here today.

Parliamentarians Carmen Thersfall, Rafael Escudero and Luis Yanez, of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE], today made a number of contacts with officials of the Chilean military government, respectfully demanding a reply regarding the case of the missing people.

They particularly emphasized the situation of the Spanish priest, Antonio Llido, who is listed among more than 600 people supposedly detained and whose fate is unknown.

They also recalled that another Spanish priest, Father Juan Alcina Bustos, died violently a few days after the 1973 military coup which overthrew the government of Socialist President Salvador Allende.

The deputies, who arrived in Santiago last Sunday, met today with Justice Minister Monica Madariaga, Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez, Supreme Court President Israel Borquez and Interior Ministry officials.

According to their report, during these talks they also expressed their concern over the young leaders of the proscribed Chilean Socialist Party, Carlos Lorca Tobar and Michel Pena Herreros, who disappeared in 1975.

They indicated that frankness prevailed during these talks and that legal proceedings on behalf of these people will continue.

Luis Yanez, PSOE foreign secretary, compared the present Chilean situation to that of Spain in 1972.

He admitted, however, that not even during the last days of the Franco era could Spain have had institutions such as the Vicariate for Solidarity, an organization of the Catholic Church which helps detainees and their relatives in Chile.

This visit of Spanish deputies to Chile was the second visit of European Socialist parliamentaries in the last 15 days.

A delegation from the FRG Bundestag was in Santiago late in June to carry out similar negotiations.

Talks End

PY121910Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Luis Yanez, secretary of foreign relations of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party [PSOE], has held a special meeting with Interior Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Montero. During the meeting they discussed issues related to the situation of alleged missing persons. The group of Spanish legislators left for Buenos Aires a few minutes ago.

UN RIGHTS GROUP WILL INVESTIGATE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

PY122343Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jul 78 PY

[Excerpt] Members of the UN Human Rights Commission are in Chile. Three of five representatives of the work group from different countries will be in Chile for 2 weeks to investigate alleged violations of human rights. The group will stay in the country until 26 July, the date established through mutual agreement with the Chilean Goverrment.

BRIEFS

INFLATION RATE FORECAST--According to Finance Minister Sergio de Castro, if financial discipline is maintained, the inflation rate for 1978 will not exceed 25 percent. He added that if the present situation prevails the inflation rate for 1978 should not rise beyond 15 percent. [Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 6 Jul 78 PY]

EPL GUERRILLAS ATTACK CORDOBA DEPARTMENT TOWN

PA122145Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Seventy guerrillas seized the town of Callejos in Cordoba Department at dawn today and waged a fierce battle with police which resulted in the death of one rebel, the arrest of six others and serious injuries to two policement. Guerrillas of the People's Liberation Army [EPL] arrived in the town at 0100, firing shots into the air and shouting revolutionary slogans. After cutting the telegraph and telephone lines, they divided into two groups. One group attacked the police headquarters with grenades, bombs and automatic weapons. Six police officers courageously repelled the attack and prevented them from seizing the police station. Meanwhile, the other group looted stores and government offices, and harangued the residents.

One insurgent died during the attack and two policemen were seriously wounded. After an 4-hour occupation, the terrorists abandoned the town, taking food, medicine, clothing and money with them.

According to an official report which the police released to RCN, the armed group was made up of 70 men under the command of a woman who wielded a G-3 rifle. Combined army and police troops were dispatched from Monteria to pursue the guerrillas.

This is the second attack by EPL guerrillas in Cordoba Department in the past 15 days. They had previously occupied the town of Puerto Libertador.

M-19 COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR PEOPLE'S SUPPORT

PA121628Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--In its most recent clandestine communique released here, the M-19, the newest guerrilla movement in Colombia, has requested the people's support to continue the armed struggle against the oligarchic power. After criticizing the recent presidential elections in which Liberal candidate Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala was the winner, M-19 advocates the unity of the people in their struggle against the system in the next 4 years.

The level of confrontation of popular struggle and the country's increasing militarization require that the people prepare the conditions to defend their conquests and face the oligarchic power through their own armed organizations, the communique stresses. Moreover, M-19 criticizes the government repression of student groups and says that the students' struggle is also popular. It also expressed support for the initiative of intellectuals, including writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez, to elect in the future a single candidate to face the representatives of the traditional parties--the Liberal and Conservative parties. However, M-19 stresses that such initiatives can be positive only as long as they respond to needs and demands which are not solely of an electoral nature.

In a previous communique M-19 called for the immediate unity of all Colombian guerrilla organizations currently divided as a result of tactical ideological disagreements. M-19, whose motto is "to achieve power by force of arms alongside the people," came on the national scene 7 years ago by stealing a sword which belonged to liberator Simon Bolivar and which M-19 adopted as a symbol of its struggle. Members of M-19 kidnaped and subsequently killed labor leader Jose Raquel Mercado 3 years ago. They tried Mercado in a people's court for betraying the workers.

ELECTORAL CALM BROKEN IN QUITO ON 8 JULY

PA111741Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpts] For the first time in the short electoral campaign voices have been raised in protest over an incident which took place in this capital on Saturday, during a rally held by the National Democratic Unity Front, which supports Dr Raul Clemente Huerta, a three-time candidate for the presidency. The explosion of several stinkbombs [bombas pestilentes] almost caused mass hysteria of unforeseeable consequences. A Liberal Party spokesman said that the incident, which occurred in the San Francisco Plaza, could have resulted in casualties if not for the fact that the people gathered there were able to control their reaction.

In addressing the crowd Huerta Rendon commented on the situation. Those who fear the irreversible triumph of democracy, as well as foreign or domestic investors who are convinced that they will lose their capital, have resolved, as their only recourse, to assassinate the National Democratic Unity candidate, Huerta said, exaggerating the effect of the exploding devices which temporarily caused his supporters to flee.

The Liberals reacted furiously to the attack, which was attributed to the two political groups that support candidates Duran Ballen and Borja Cevallos. Atahualpa Marti, a spokesman for the Liberal Party leadership, said that the devices were placed by agents of the Constitutionalist Front and the Democratic Left.

In response, and with surprise, Efrain Cossio, executive provincial director of the Democratic Left, told Radio Super: [begin Cossio recording] Dr Gonzalo Cordova, national director of the Democratic Left, warned authorities of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and the Ministry of Government about certain events that would take place during Liberal Party demonstrations. He requested an exhaustive inventigation since we had been told that certain members of the front which supports candidate Sixto Duran Ballen were preparing a demonstration to counter the receptions that would be held for the Liberal candidates. Actually, the authorities did nothing and those incidents took place.

Of course I wish to emphatically and totally reject the slanderous and false statements which certain Liberal candidates and party leaders have made implicating the Democratic Left in those reproachable acts. The Democratic Left is a serious political party, a political party which fights with ideas and does not need to resort to crime or terrorist action to promote impose its theses or ideas. [end recording]

SCATTERED VIOLENCE REPORTED AS ELECTION NEARS

PA120417Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2040 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[By Jacques Kaufmann]

[Excerpt] Quito, 11 Jul (AFP)--Isolated outbreaks of violence in the past few days have disrupted the peace in Ecuador, which is getting ready to elect its future president next Sunday. The principal focus of agitation has been on the coast, where several attacks and clashes occurred between groups of rival politicians. Up until today, Tuesday, these clashes have resulted in one person killed and several injured.

The latest incidents involved the placing of a bomb near the transmitters of Cadena Radial Ecuatoriana of Guayaquil and a shootout between rival political groups in the small city of Milagro, close to Guayaquil. The peace of this city had already been broken at the beginning of last week by street demonstrations organized as a sign of protest against an increase in interprovincial transportation fares on routes to Guayaquil. Several persons were injured and dozens of students who participated in the demonstrations were arrested by the police.

From another quarter, unidentified individuals shot at supporters of the candidate for mayor of Guayaquil, Antonio Hanna, a member of the Ecuadorean Revolutionary Popular Action Party, which is sponsoring Sixto Duran Ballen for the presidency. The group attacked members of this party who were putting up a poster of Antonio Hanna, a well-known Ecuadorean television commentator. The people putting up the poster were injured when they threw themselves on the ground to avoid being shot. They had to be treated at a hospital.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal condemned the acts of violence of the last few days and appealed to the people to demonstrate civic maturity by avoiding violence. In a communique published in the local press on Monday the tribunal said that "we must banish this aggressiveness between sympathizers and supporters of candidates for the positions which must rule the destiny of the nation after 8 years of not participating in the election of their representatives."

The authorities adopted measures to guarantee order in Guayaquil on election day. Army, navy and police units will patrol the city, ready to intervene in any outbreak of agitation.

SIXTO DURAN BALLEN CRITICIZED BY COMMUNISTS

PA121225Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0126 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 11 Jul (AFP)--The Ecuadorean left in the last few days has unleashed a harsh campaign against the other presidential candidates, accusing former Quito Mayor Sixto Duran Ballen of serving South Korean, U.S. and Israeli companies. Duran Ballen, one of the candidates with the greatest likelihood of reaching the presidency, has the support of the National Constitutionalist Front, composed of seven center-rightist organizations.

Communist presidential candidate Rene Mauge said that all the projects accomplished by the former mayor were made "against the interests of Ecuadorean professionals." He said in this week's issue of the magazine NUEVA that the projects "were carried out by U.S. and Israeli companies under contract." Mauge added that Sixto Duran would, once elected, rule the country "with Israeli, U.S. and South Korean companies." He added that "we have already seen that a South Korean company was hired to lay a simple asphalt cover, as if Ecuadorean technicians and engineers could not lay a simple asphalt cover."

The candidacy of Mauge, a lawyer specializing in constitutional law, is sponsored by the Leftwing Broad Front, which includes part of the Communist Party and several leftist groups. Mauge said in the magazine NUEVA that Rodrigo Borja's candidacy is backed by German social democracy.

DETAILS ON PROTEST AT U.S. EMBASSY

PY1216011Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 12 Jul 78 p 8 PY

[Excerpts] A peaceful demonstration of the various sectors making up the University Federation of Paraguay [FUP] was carried out at 1945 yesterday in front of the American Embassy at Mariscal Lopez and Kubitschek streets in Asuncion.

Several speakers took the stand. The first was Manual Esquivel, president of the "Ignacio A. Pane" Colorado Center, who stated that this was an act to repudiate foreign intervention. "We are here, comrades, to reassert our country's sovereignty and our support to the government and to repudiate the enemies of our people, no matter who is against this and no matter how powerful he is. We, Colorado students, are anti-communist, either with the United States or against the United States."

Second to speak was Abilio Olmedo Areco, FUP president, who stated: "We have come here to publicly reject any foreign intervention, in our role as heirs of the heroes of the War of the Triple Alliance." National Deputy Miguel Angel Lopez Gimenez said: "The Colorado university youth have democratically come to this street today to show unyielding loyalty to the leader of human rights, President Alfredo Stroessner. We are telling anyone who cares to listen to us that Paraguayan youth will mold their destiny. Out with the Yankees. We regret that the ambassador of a country like the United States interfered in the domestic affairs of our country and, with or without the ambassador, we will defend the interests of the Paraguayan people."

Ramon Mendez Santacruz, president of the philosophy students center, also reasserted his repudiation of the U.S. ambassador's interference in Paraguayan affairs. Carlos Dominguez, president of the Colorado center "Blas Garay," stated: "We would rather have black [in English] than white [in English]. We are against interventionism." Carlos Chilavert, a delegate from the national university law school, stated in reference to the ambassador that he "was prancing with a glass of whiskey in his hand at the OAS while he was looking down Mrs Orfila's low-cut dress. Our everlasting repudiation goes to this common alcoholic."

Luis Schupp, delegate from the agronomy school, made similar remarks and concluded by saying: "We repudiate this poisonous Yankee."

After this incident the demonstration was dispersed by an appeal through megaphones. A group of demonstrators got on a bus which had been hired for this purpose and the others left in several vehicles at approximately 2040.

INTERIOR MINISTER ISSUES STATEMENT ON LAINO CASE

PY1302011Y Asuncion Red Privada de Emisoras in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 78 PY

[From Colorado Party executive board's program "The Voice of the Colorado Party"]

[Text] Dr Sabino Augusto Montanaro, interior minister and first vice president of the Colorado Party, has released a detailed report on the detention of former Radical Liberal Party Deputy Domingo Laino Figueredo. He once again recalled that this character has a case pending in the ordinary court, and that for this reason he was detained recently.

Referring to some reports published by the independent press, the minister explained that Laino was facing a judicial order which was pending while Laino was protected by his congressional immunity. He said that there is positive proof of his direct ties with leftist groups and leaders from the United States, Europe and communist China. All this background will be presented to the judge in charge of the case, he said.

He also referred to the physical soundness of the detainee, saying that a medical board was established today with all the guarantees and that this is the moment when all infamy will be brought to light because that medical board will proceed to give this character a physical checkup.

He emphatically stressed that elements like Laino seek to agitate and conspire against the progress of the country, and that this is merely an incident which does not scare us or make us lose our minds, but which will receive the appropriate treatment.

He also recalled that a document called the Blue Book appeared at the recent OAS assembly. He said that this book could not have a more appropriate name because whatever is blue is false [reference to blue as the color of the Liberal Party], and that the assembly did not bother recalling such terrorist actions as the murders of Aramburu, General Cardozo and others. Such murders have motivated governments to expand their defense of democracy.

Dr Montanaro said that this was an incident sought by that character, referring to Laino. This character, who challenged the government, will now have to account to the ordinary court for his often proved subversive nature.

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS DENOUNCE LAINO'S ARREST

PY121858Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Jul 78 p 9 PY

[Text] A document issued by the National Commission for the Defense of Human Rights and the Paraguayan Youth for Human Rights states that the arrest of Domingo Laino "IS ANOTHER ACTION WHICH VIOLATES SACRED HUMAN RIGHTS, THE RIGHTS AND GUARANTEES INCLUDED IN THE CONSTITUTION AND NATIONAL COMMITMENTS."

Later the document states that "the defense of human rights is one of the hallmarks of the Paraguayan legal-political system, but a repressive system based on intimidation and violence means the organized violation of basic rights. An organization which employs this system on a permanent basis refutes its very legal foundations and contradicts its basic principles. As a result, it compromises the legitimacy of its institutions and the trust which citizens and entities could have in an effective democratic process.

"The unknown fate of more than 30 citizens after their arrests, and the imprisonment of 40 persons, victims of torture, for the crime of having civic convictions, eloquently and dramatically reveals the human rights situation in our country."

The document continues: "In view of this alarming situation, the National Commission for the Defense of Human Rights and the Paraguayan Youth for Human Rights ask the people to participate more actively in the struggle for full observance of human rights, in order to end once and for all every kind of abuse, affront and arbitrary action, and to establish a true state of law within the framework of political, social and economic democracy which would liberate Paraguayans forever. These are the essential prerequisites for real peace."

TEACHERS GROUP BREAKS WITH STRIKING LEADERSHIP

PY051615Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Jul 78 PY

[Text] Education Minister Otto Elespuru Revoredo stated yesterday that, in order to solve the teachers problems, teachers must abandon their strike and return to work. General Elespuru reasserted that this was necessary during the talk he held with teachers representatives of Ancash and La Libertad departments.

The teachers, who represent the Teachers Struggle and Unity Front [Frente de Lucha y Unificacion Magisterial] made up of grassroots groups in Trujillo, San Telmo de Dios, (?Tacasmavi) and other localities, expressed their decision to break ties with the teachers leadership which is responsible for the strike.

The talk with the minister clearly revealed that the leadership of the Single Union of Education Workers has lost the confidence of the teachers--not only because of its inflexibility but also because it has distorted the objectives of the teachers movement by taking it into the realm of ultraleft politics.

POLISARIO FRONT REPRESENTATIVE SEEKS SUPPORT

PA122003Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0450 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 11 Jul (AFP)--Ali Ahmed, a representative of the POLISARIO Front, announced here today that he is seeking the support of the Peruvian Government and political forces for the people of the Republic of Western Sahara.

Speaking on the war that his people are carrying out against Morroco, Mauritania and France, Ali Ahmed announced at a press conference that a committee in support of the Saharan people will be installed here next Monday.

He recounted the conflict of the former Spanish Sahara and said that the POLISARIO Front is ready to cooperate with its present enemies if they recognize his country's independence.

MECHANIC CLAIMS HE WAS TORTURED BY CHILEAN POLICE

PA121921Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 12 Jul (AFP)--It was reported here today that Peruvian citizen Nicolas Rojas has complained of being "cruelly tortured" for 18 days by the Chilean police of Arica who thought he was a spy.

Rojas, who is a meahanic of the Tacna flying club in southern Peru, said that he went to Arica on 12 June and out of curiosity visited the commercial airport of Chacalluta, where he was arrested for spying. He added that at first he was in the hands of the carabineros and subsequently of the military, all of whom tried to force him to confess he was a spy.

The mechanic said he was first beaten, then tied by his legs and arms to a beam and then submerged in water close to where two other Peruvians were being beaten.

He said the torture lasted for 1 week, but since he continued protesting his innocence they treatened to shoot him. He added that later on he was given no food and subjected to electric shocks until finally, after 18 days of sadistic torture, he was left tied up outside Arica from where he returned to Tacna.

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT DEFENDS PRESENT SYSTEM

PA121215Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Communique issued on 11 July 1978 by Juan Materno Vasquez, president of the Supreme Court of Justice, after consulting with the court's plenum--read by announcer]

[Excerpt] 1. As a result of what has been termed the democratic opening, strong criticism has been voiced against the government system designed in the political charter of 1972. These criticisms extend to the exercise of public power by the judicial branch, of which it has been said that it is subordinent to the executive branch.

2. As we understand that the right to express opinions constitutes the essence of democracy, we had paid little attention to those expressions of criticism against the body which we represent and criticisms which on many occasions were stated in offensive terms. But now a pronouncement has been included in a recent pastoral letter, which apparently repeats all those criticisms, raising them to the category of a criticism from the archbishop. This may give room for these criticisms to continue within a framework of confusion concerning concepts, which in no way favors the nation's institutional development.

At the same time, it has been suggested that a better system than the one currently being criticized would be one in which the magistrates of the Supreme Court are appointed by the president of the republic with the approval of the National Assembly. This is seen as an effective means of guaranteeing the independence of the court's opinions.

3. We reject these manifestations where they refer to the judicial branch's lack of independence in the exercise of its functions. In order to inform the public and to clarify the issue we state the following:

A. It has been some time now since our constitutional laws abandoned the term and concept "public powers." The modern constitutional laws refer to organs of government. It is for this reason that since the time the 1946 Constitution was established, and following the doctrines of Moscote and Alfaro, the fatherland's constituents have consecrated as a constitutional rule that public power emanates only from the people and is exercised by the state in accordance with the Constitution through the legislative, executive and judicial branches.

B. Panamanian constitutional laws have evolved from the 1946 charter to that of 1972 as regards the concept of the exercise of public power in the sense that in the present charter it is established that the government bodies act in harmonious cooperation among themselves and with the public force. Before this, it was established that they act in limited and separate fashion, although with harmonious cooperation.

C. It is true that in the 1946 Constitution the court magistrates were appointed by the president of the republic with the National Assembly's approval. It is also true that at present and in accordance with Article No 277--transitory--of the National Constitution, magistrates are appointed by the chief of government with the cabinet's approval.

The most important thing worth underscoring here--almost with a desire to introduce some civic pedagogy--is that these criticisms not only respond to an antihistorical criterion, but also denote an ignorance of the constitutional systems that prevail in nations of greater institutional development than ours, nations where the appointment of the court's magistrates by the chief of the executive no longer constitutes a problem.

In short, who appoints the court's magistrates does not constitute a problem. The important thing is that, as jurists and as men, the members of the judicial branch retain enough independence of opinion to exercise their duties, and I challenge anyone to point out a single case of interference or in which the members of the judicial branch have been either pressured or ordered to make decisions of one kind or another.

Panama, 11 July 1978

[signed] Juan Materno Vasquez, president of the Supreme Court of Justice

COMMENTARY ON REPLY TO GOVERNMENT'S CALL FOR DIALOG

PA121210Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Mario Velasquez commentary]

[Excerpts] In the middle of last week, Torrijos broadened the political opening with his speech in Colon. Liberalism answered this speech with much thought and a sense of the political realities. Arnulfo Arias, Christian Democracy and the other minority forces which have joined the Panamenist bandwagon answered with the announcement of a possible general strike to overthrow the government. I imagine that this announcement must bring certain images of the Apocalypse to the businessmen and merchants who desire a climate of peace and calm that will lead to the improvement of the country's economic situation. A politically oriented general strike is a movement which affects everyone and whose implementation and realization is close to being subversive. In this case, it is directed at the overthrow of a government.

The Liberal Party's difference with other opposition sectors lies in the fact that the Liberals understand the nature of the dialog announced by the government. They seek to expand the basis of that dialog, but they are aware that the political solution must be found along with the government and General Torrijose because that is an objective reality that the opposition cannot change since it lacks the power of decision to do so. This is where the essential difference between Panamenists and Liberals lies.

Historically, Panamenism has not been a political party favorable to dialog, instead of favoring the imposition and achievement of its own platform. This is based on the two powerful cards it has: its unquestionable popular support and the charisma of its leader.

The Liberals have a greater inclination to debate, for political interplay, dialog, understanding and negotiation. They are more favorable to tolerance due in large part to their own party philosophy and the fact that its democratic origins have produced many leaders.

As for the Panamenists, the call to a possible general strike to overthrow the government confirms the urgency of the party to change the political situation. It also shows how far that party is from dialog and a political solution. For the Panamenists, democratication must occur right away. This means not holding a dialog, having Torrijos immediately leave power and establishing a government that in some way represents a political restoration for what occurred on October 1968.

If our political analyses are valid, then we can explain why the unity of the Panamenist and Liberal parties seems difficult right now. There are other considerations of course. One of them is the fact that the Liberals are a party with a history, with a sense of power, with experience in the exercise of power, with popular representation and with leaders who demand functions of leadership and direction which would be very difficult to exercise in the face of the absorbing and dominant personality of Dr Arnulfo Arias.

This is not the case with the other minority political groups which have enthusiastically joined the Panamenist bandwagon because they do not have popular support, do not have a history in this country and by joining Armulfism, they gain an audience which, even though it is not theirs, is at least listening to them.

The Liberal strategy calls for the realization of the political dialog announced by the government. A look at Panama's political history shows that when political parties feel isolated or surrounded they make any move to place themselves in what its leaders consider as the trend that will allow them to participate and operate politically. Therefore, the Liberals' political position, its independent opposition in the face of Panamenism and the political steps that might be adopted by other party organizations could in the long run be determined by the degree of political opening that the national government finally establishes.

LIBERAL PARTY CALLS FOR ELECTORAL REFORM

PA121235Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Jul 78 pp 1, 18 PA

[Text of Liberal Party declaration issued during meeting of national directorate on 9 July 1978]

[Excerpt] The Liberal Party [PL] has repeatedly set forth, by means of communiques and declarations, the urgent need to reform the existing political system because it does not represent the popular will and because of the great distrust it has aroused, this has provoked a great discontent not only in the social field, but in the economic field as well.

In reply to an invitation to strive for the democratization of the government system, the party has assumed its responsibility in the orientation and guidance of a large popular sector which follows the party's doctrine, equally distant from the extreme right or left.

The PL interprets the struggle for democracy as a patriotic duty. The struggle for democracy is the means by which all political and civic groups can cooperate in the task of building a true democracy in our country. Setting aside personal and sectarian interests, we shall do our duty to our country in order to restore democratic institutions and juridical order within a framework of security, justice and respect for the public freedoms and the dignity and integrity of man.

The PL believes that the following precepts are fundamentally essential for the existence of representative democracy:

1. That public power be a product of the popular will expressed in honest nationwide elections.

2. That the state exercise power by means of the legislative, executive and judicial bodies.

3. That the president of the republic and the members of the legislative body be elected by popular, secret, direct and equal vote.

4. That the Supreme Court magistrates be selected by the president of the republic with the essential approval of the legislative body. The same applies to the appointment of the autonomous state institution directors as well as the attorney general. These appointments should be for a fixed period.

5. That laws be passed with the previous consultation of the affected sectors by means of special commissions of the legislative body and that these laws be publicly debated on three different days in plenary sessions.

6. That the fundamental freedoms be guaranteed and that the effective application of habeas corpus be established.

7. That under no circumstances Panamanians be expatriated.

8. That political parties be allowed to function.

9. That a real and operational autonomy be established in the University of Panama.

10. That reforms to the existing constitution be drafted immediately and that they be discussed with the opposition representative.

MATUTINO ANALYZES TORRIJOS' POLITICAL STATEMENTS

PA072153Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 7 Jul 78 p 4A PA

[Editorial: "Clear as Water"]

[Excerpt] Taking advantage of the opportunity he had when he held his meeting with leaders of Colon's popular sectors and organizations, Chief of Government Omar Torrijos Herrera made clear statements which may be regarded as an outline of his political thinking.

His statements left no room for doubt. There was no issue avoidance; his statements were direct, objective and precise, as would be required for a problem that is a source of concern for some sectors of our population, that is, a revival of the political parties, which were suspended at the onset of the October revolution.

It is worth highlighting some of the salient aspects of the statements made by the chief of government in regard to this controversial issue. They can be summed up as follows:

The elections for corregimiento representatives of 6 August will be held as scheduled. By registering for their respective candidates, hundreds of thousands of Panamanians have given notice in writing that they want the election to be held, which is tantamount to endorsing personally, with one's signature, a continuation of the regime through the popular power system. Consequently, this means that the president of the republic for the next 6 years will be elected by the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives.

Therefore, it will not be until 1984 when there will be a possibility of electing a president by direct suffrage. This will be so only if the high-level commission composed of representatives of the government and the political sectors so recommends in order that legal rules may be drafted to allow a direct popular vote.

Likewise, it is clear that the same high-level commission will submit to the legislation commission the bill that would provide the legal basis for a reactivation of the political parties. These preliminary activities may be started as soon as the electoral process of 6 August ends.

The reference made by Torrijos to the direct election of president in 1984, the resurgence of the political parties and the constitutional reforms indicates that, on the basis of the positive experience gained to date with the system of 505 corregimiento representatives, the government plans, subject to approval by the people, to maintain the present system because it considers it advisable for the best development of the nation's institutional life.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER: RELATIONS WITH PANAMA 'ESTABLISHED FACT'

PA121615Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2356 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 11 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez announced today, Tuesday, that the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Guatemala and Panama "is an established fact." In his first news conference since taking office on 1 July, Castillo Valdez reiterated Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas' desire to end, within a short period of time, the present state of cooled relations between this country and Panama.

The new foreign minister said that only routine procedures remain to be completed before the reestablishment of relations between the two governments is finally formalized.

Former Guatemalan President Gen Kjell Laugerud Garcia broke relations with Gen Omar Torrijos' government in May 1977 after the Panamanian Government expressed support for the independence of Belize, a territory which Guatemala is claiming from Great Britain.

HONDURAS

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GO ON 2-DAY STRIKE

PA122016Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1920 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 11 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Over 15,000 high school students went on a 2-day strike today, Tuesday, to demand better social and economic conditions from the Honduran military government. The students had called the strike over the weekend to demand freedom of organization and "standardization" ["estandarizacion"] as well as a reduction in enrollment fees at various schools. They also demand a gradually increasing government control [oficializacion] of various departmental institutes and the payment of full salaries to future teachers carrying out their social practice this year.

The strike was called by the leftist Federation of Secondary Students (FESE), which groups most of the students of the state and semiofficial schools.

It was also reported that the Central Institute of Tegucigalpa, the country's largest school, was taken over today by groups of students to pressure the government into acceding to their demands.

SULA TIEMPO ON EXISTENCE OF ANTICOMMUNIST GROUP

PA130026Y San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spaniah 1 Jul 78 p 3 PA

[From "Laberinto Politico" column]

[Text] Charges made in San Pedro Sula about the existence of an anticommunist murder organization, the "Mano Negra," is one of the facets of organized crime in our country which uses criminals for the physical elimination of opponents in order to intimidate and stop reformist political trends. It is the same thing as the "Mano Blanca" in Guatemala. This Mano Negra group has made its appearance at the same time that--and let no one deceive himself--another organized group, that of the hired journalists, is making efforts to demonstrate the existence of a communist plot to discredit the army and overthrow the regime.

NICARAGUA

VIOLENCE, DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN VARIOUS AREAS

PA121837Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1325 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--An undeclared civil war which according to preliminary reports resulted in 4 deaths and 10 persons injured occurred yesterday between students and community groups and army troops loyal to Gen Anastasio Somoza.

The rebellion, which began early yesterday in Jinotepe, a city located 45 km south of this capital, extended to Managua and other cities in the interior. The results of a series of violent incidents also included damage to private homes and dozens of persons being arrested throughout the day.

As of now, it is known that three persons died in the city of San Marcos, about 30 km from this capital. The victims were identified as Juan Hernandez, a tailor by trade; Fernando Tapia, also an adult; an unidentified 12 year old; and Carmela Cruz Peralta, aged 88. These civilians died when a bomb exploded inside a church in this city that had been occupied by students. The incident attracted a large number of curious persons who were confronted by a military patrol which thought it was a demonstration.

In Jinotepe, where four students died of bullet wounds last Sunday, five rebellious civilians were wounded by bullets or bomb shrapnel.

In Diriamba, 40 km to the south, another group of students clashed with military forces. Only one person was reportedly wounded and several were arrested. In this same city, acting on orders of the Ministry of Education, military patrols with air support entered the buildings of the normal school and the primary school annex.

Also in Diriamba, which like Jinotepe and San Marcos is in Carazo Department, a truck belonging to the La Perfecta pasteurizing plant of Managua was attacked by 30 hooded youths. Milk and other dairy products were distributed to the town's population by the attackers and money was taken from the vehicle's driver.

Grave incidents resulting in an unspecified number of injured persons have also been reported in the northern cities of Esteli and Matagalpa.

In the western city of Leon, university students took to the streets to protest the death of students in Jinotepe, demanding punishment for the persons responsible for their deaths.

In this capital the police dispersed a demonstration by students of the Ruben Dario University who, after holding a meeting, went into the street carrying a symbolic casket and singing antigovernment slogans. Some 200 students of the Central American University were besieged at their campus after students set fire to two urban buses. While covering these events, reporters of television Channel 2's "Extravision" newscast were imprisoned but released 6 hours later. Their film was confiscated.

A total of approximately 20 students and opposition activists were arrested on the streets of the capital.

The Association of Secondary Students ordered a nationwide student strike to be continued for 1 week.

Meanwhile, youths who passed themselves off as members of the guerrilla Sandinist Front robbed a branch of the Central American Savings and Loan S.A., located in La Sabana commercial center in eastern Managua.

It was also reported from the western port of Corinto that a group of high school students was arrested at the end of a progovernment demonstration.

The nearby city of Masaya to the east was the scene of continuous bomb explosions throughout the day, but no reports of injuries or clashes with National Guard troops were reported.

Violence Continues

PA130243Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0032 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Police used tear gas here today to break up a new demonstration by university students who were protesting the deaths of eight persons in Jinotepe and San Marcos as a result of clashes between students and military forces.

In Jinotepe and San Marcos, located in Carazo Department in southern Nicaragua, soldiers have had to intervene in view of the antigovernment demonstrations. In Jinotepe youths armed with weapons and homemade bombs have rebelled against the army following a day of agitation. There is a tense climate in the city. Reinforcements, supported by helicopters of the Nicaraguan Air Force (FAN), participated in the eviction of students occupying schools.

The university students in Managua seized the street in front of the Central American University (UCA), blocking traffic on that important route. Fearful that more buses would be set on fire, as occurred yesterday, the urban bus companies suspended their services, causing serious problems for the workers of Managua.

For the second consecutive day, police patrols surrounded students of the UCA and the nearby Ruben Dario campus of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN) where the students erected barricades at the entrances to the campus.

Meanwhile, the police this morning ended their operation to evict groups belonging to the Association of Secondary Students (AES) which had been occupying various Managua schools for the past 12 days. Several students were arrested by the police, who confiscated molotov cocktails the students were constantly throwing.

AES leaders publicly denied that they had damaged the schools, charging that the damages were intentionally made by the soldiers when the evictions occurred.

In view of the situation, the parents federation broke off the dialog with high-ranking officials of the Public Education Ministry which had sought a solution to the students' educational and political demands.

For the second consecutive day, the Nicaraguan Red Cross issued an urgent appeal for volunteer blood donors in view of the decreasing blood reserves following the wave of persons wounded in the recent disturbances.

In Leon, in western Nicaragua, opposition members exploded homemade bombs in front of the home of Nicaraguan Economy Minister Roger Blandon. No casualties have been reported.

In Masaya, to the east, participants in a Sandinist demonstration carried four guerrillas, including one woman, on their shoulders. The guerrillas were released today after being tried for participating in a military attack against the city's garrison.

In Granada, east of Managua, the secondary schools decreed an 8-day strike to protest the bloody events that have again placed Nicaragua in the headlines of local and foreign newspapers.

Early tonight some 500 students lit bonfires in front of the UCA buildings in Managua. The student demonstration, which blocked traffic, brought at least six military patrols to restore order. In view of the presence of the military troops, the students retreated to the university buildings.

Clashes in Masaya

PA130521Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The city of Masaya was practically paralyzed around 2000 tonight due to intense shooting in the Monimbo district. A few minutes after the shooting started, an armored car and a jeep were on their way to Monimbo. Weapons were being fired in different sectors of the city--in El Calvario, the market, near the mayor's office, San Miguel and other places.

Around 2110 there was a blackout, which increased the unrest among the citizens. Near the central square, soldiers were in combat positions firing their rifles. So far, we have not received reports on persons wounded in Masaya, but the rattling noise of submachineguns could be heard in all areas.

The people in Masaya are going through very difficult moments. Homemade bomb explosions can be heard in some sectors of the city. The situation here is similar to the one which existed during 26 and 27 February 1978.

SOMOZA LAUNCHES NEW ATTACK ON CASTRO GOVERNMENT

PA121614Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1903 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza launched a new attack on the regime of Cuban President Fidel Castro during a Liberal Party rally here today, Tuesday. Noting that the Nationalist Liberal Party (PLN) will have completed 50 years in power in February, Somoza also reaffirmed his resolute opposition to the establishment of capital punishment in Nicaragua.

Speaking to a gathering in the small plaza in front of the national stadium, the Nicaraguan chief executive said that "Nicaragua does not have 200,000 exiles as the Cuban Government does." He added emphatically: "That is why we are opposed to the Cuban firing squad and why we condemn the Monimbo executions." He was referring to the execution of two army informers by members of the Monimbo Indian community in the city of Masaya during the popular antigovernment uprising in February.

The president later challenged university and high school student leaders who are participating in the occupation of government schools and staging a student strike for an indefinite period to go to Cuba and take over Fidel's schools. "I am sure that if you take over the schools in Cuba you would go to 'La Cabana' for 30 years," he added.

Somoza told the Liberals that it is not admissible for a minority to have occupied most of the nation's high schools. He said: "We Liberals must guarantee the people's right to education."

The president did not mention the incidents in Jinotepe, a city in the southern part of the country where a clash between student demonstrators and National Guard troops on Sunday left four students dead and several injured.

For the first time in his recent public appearances, Somoza did not repeat his call for dialog with the opposition, which has rejected every invitation to sit down with him to discuss the nation's political problems.

The governing Liberals today are celebrating the victory of their forefathers during the civil war of 1893 and the promulgation of the first Liberal constitution, inspired, according to Somoza, by the Constitution of the United States and the principles of the Declaration of the Rights of Man of the United Nations and the French Revolution.

A chorus of "you are not leaving; you are staying" appeared to be a response to the demands of the opposition parties which, during their public ceremonies, usually chant the slogan: "What is the goal? Somoza's departure."

Rally Disrupted by Smokebomb

PA121620Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2001 GMT 11 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Unidentified persons detonated a smokebomb today, Tuesday, in the small plaza where the government party was holding a rally to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the Liberal revolution of 11 July 1893. The explosion naturally caused persons who were gathered in front of the national stadium in this capital to run from the scene.

The column of smoke lifted as Nicaraguan Education Minister Maria Helena de Porras was speaking. People continued to turn from the area during a speech by Orlando Montenegro, minister of the National District (mayor of Managua).

Gen Anastasio Somoza intervened, calling on the Liberals to resume their places and "not be intimidated by smokebombs." The president said that "terrorists" wish to sabotage public ceremonies. He warned that "the Liberals have people who can face up to these threats."

CONSERVATIVES WALK OUT OF CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

PA122302Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2144 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 12 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Conservative minority that is part of the Nicaraguan Government today, Wednesday, massively left the National Congress Hall of Sessions in opposition to the appointment of a bipartisan commission that would hold a dialog with Gen Anastasio Somoza.

Despite the fact that the motion was originally made by a member of the opposition, the initiative was flatly rejected by the Conservative minority led by Dr Rene Sandino Arguello.

Conservative Senator Raul Arana Montalvan was the one who proposed at a congressional plenum that a commission be organized to meet with General Somoza in order to discuss possible solutions to national problems which have intensified in recent months.

The Liberal majority immediately began debating the proposal. They were about to approve it when the Conservative group unexpectedly stood up and abandoned the National Palace's Ruben Dario room, where the legislative body holds its sessions.

OPPOSITION FRONT CALLS GENERAL STRIKE ON 19 JULY

PA121915Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1340 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 12 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The anti-Somoza Broad Opposition Front [FAO] yesterday called for a general strike for 19 July.

After meeting for over 2 hours, the leadership of the FAO, an organization that groups all the forces in opposition to Somoza's government, turned down a proposal to stage the strike today, Wednesday.

The Independent Liberal Party, a member of the FAO, proposed a strike to protest the death of four students in Jinotepe on Sunday. The decision was taken by FAO leaders following a day of rioting yesterday in various cities of the interior in which 4 persons died and 10 were injured. It was also a reply to the government of President Somoza, who yesterday held a rally in this capital to commemorate the 11 July 1893 revolution. On this occasion, General Somoza made another attack against Fidel Castro's government and invited high school students to go to Cuba and seize one of the schools with the assurance that the Cuban leader would throw them in La Cabana for many years.

Somoza also said that the Liberal Party was about to observe half a century in power, "which is a hard blow to the Conservative (minority) Party."

During the rally unidentified persons, presumably opponents of the regime, set off a smokebomb which caused many of the persons attending the rally to scatter.

AFRIQUE-ASIE DETAILS CIA PLANS AGAINST ANGOLA

FL130125Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Text] In an effort to stop the movement for the Angolan liberation from proclaiming the country's independence, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency created four subversive plans. The magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE explains those four projects based on the book published by former CIA agent John Stockwell. PRENSA LATINA summarizes the article as follows:

August, September and October of 1975 were crucial months for Angola's independence because during them the CIA attempted to exploit tools ranging from an air war to ideological diversionism. It all began with the arrival in the country of a group headed by John Stockwell which was charged with giving financial and military aid to the counterrevolutionary organizations FNLA and UNITA while public opinion in African capitals, Western Europe, the United Nations and the United States itself was being manipulated.

The first plan, Puff the Magic Dragon, aimed at annihilating MPLA guerrilla concentrations with aircraft equipped with sophisticated machineguns of the type used in Vietnam, was dropped because the CIA was not interested in a quick military victory. Under the code name (Iatalesius), it was then decided to allocate $1 million to bribe Portuguese officers so that they would carry out a coup d'etat. The project did not work out because the CIA did not have a sufficient number of officers infiltrated in Luanda and lacked direct contact with the high command of the occupation army.

Within that context, it was decided to create a fourth movement for the liberation of Angola, made up of exiles in Spain and Brazil who supported a peaceful solution. But the great majority refused to participate in the maneuver. Nevertheless, the subversive attempts continued.

From the brains in Langley, Virginia, came the (Yacadens) plan, which involved the use of misinformation in African capitals, Western Europe, the UN headquarters and the United States itself. This third phase undertook the use of the wornout denunciation of communist infiltration and Soviet-Cuban meddling in Angola. Thus, the Zairian dailies ELIMA and SALONGO published communiques and articles attributed to UNITA and FNLA which were also given broad coverage by Western press agencies in Europe, Asia and Africa itself.

Such was the initial success that UNITA announced the capture of 20 Soviet and 35 Cuban advisers in Melunga. Unfortunately for the CIA, it was shortly determined that the UNITA hordes had never shown their noses nowhere near Melunga.

Far from learning from the mistakes, the CIA implemented a more sophisticated phase of its campaign of misinformation. Project (Yaquishun), whose first manifestation was the publication of a white book on alleged atrocities perpetrated by Cubans against the Angolan rural population. Written in Afro-French dialect on coarse paper, the white book made the rounds of the UN halls where the Chinese were its more avid readers. Suffice to say that the center distributing the document was headquartered in a small hotel in Manhattan.

Simultaneously, the CIA deposited funds in European banks under the name of the two counterrevolutionary movements. When these funds returned to the United States, they were used to finance the campaign of misinformation, which found receptive ears in some North American sectors with mentalities deformed by the establishment's interests.

But that propaganda effort encountered continued difficulties to the degree that U.S. intervention in Angolan domestic affairs became known. In September 1975, the article states, faced with the evidence of U.S. support for the FNLA and UNITA, Washington reinforced the publication of information on different aspects of Soviet intervention in Angola, while the State Department proclaimed its innocence and that of other African countries. It was then that the United States was up to its neck in Angolan affairs, when Project (Yaquishun) demonstrated to be one of the most shamefully unsuccessful CIA paramilitary operations.

PEDRO MIRET, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR IRAQ

FL121359Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1345 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Text] A Cuban delegation headed by PCC Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto has left for the Republic of Iraq to participate in festivities celebrating the 10th anniversary of the revolution and the 20th anniversary of independence. The delegation also includes Construction Minister Jose Lopez Moreno and Ernesto Gomez Abascal, official at the Central Committee's Foreign Relations General Department.

CUBAN-COLOMBIAN MIXED COMMISSION TO BE FORMED

FL121352Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1332 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Text] A Colombian-Cuban mixed commission will be formed shortly to develop a cooperation agreement in culture and education to be signed by Colombia and Cuba. The text of a document signed in Havana by the education ministers, Cuba's Jose R. Fernandez and Colombia's Rafael Rivas Posada, has been issued by the press secretariat of the presidency of the Colombian Republic.

The document was signed during a visit to Cuba by a delegation headed by Rivas Posada and included Education Vice Minister Doris (Pedrar) de Zambrano, Rector of the National University (Emilio Aljure Naser) and other officials. The Colombian secretariat reported that the objective of the mixed commission of the two countries will be to come up with exchange and cooperation programs covered by the agreement.

FIDEL, POLITBURO CHOSEN SPECIAL GUESTS TO 11TH FESTIVAL

FL121237Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, has been designated as a delegate of honor to the 11th World Youth and Students Festival. The same designation was given to Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces--FAR--and the rest of the PCC Politburo. The designations were unanimously agreed to by the 2,000 members of the Cuban delegation to the youth event at the ceremony constituting the delegation which was held yesterday at Karl Marx Theater in Havana City.

The event was presided over by Army Gen Raul Castro and was closed by Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura. The proposal to designate Fidel as a delegate of honor to the 11th festival was made by 1st Lt (Ada Acosta), delegate from Havana City Province, member of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] National Committee and an internationalist combatant, decorated with the Pedro Soto Alba Merit Award of the second and third grades, and three times FAR vanguard.

Afterward, the delegate from Santiago de Cuba Province, (Juan Bandera la Marque), construction worker and internationalist combatant and worker, presented the Cuban delegation presidium. It is made up of Luis Orlando Dominguez, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the UJC, president; UJC Second Secretary Manuel Villamar, vice president; and Omar Mirabal, member of the UJC National Bureau, executive vice president. Also named as vice presidents were the other members of the UJC National Bureau, the presidents of the Federation of University Students and the Federation of Intermediate-Level Students. Also on the presidium are the national secretariats of the aforementioned student organizations and the presidium of Jose Marti Pioneers Organization.

In his remarks, Machado Ventura stated that our party is proud of this delegation, which is a representative synthesis of the political and moral values that exist in the young Cuban generation. He transmitted the sincere congratulations and recognition from the PCC Politburo, and especially from its first secretary, commander in Chief Fidel Castro, to the young Cuban delegates. Later the Politburo member stated that the career of every youth which was recognized by their collectives for their exemplary conditions first caused them to be elected as nominees and then as candidates. The fact that they reached even one of these two categories grants them the right to be considered an advanced vanguard of the young generation.

In describing the composition of the Cuban delegation, he explained that among the 2,000 delegates are 102 comrades who won the 20th Anniversary Medal, 224 who were awarded orders of merit by the UJC and 442 who have completed internationalist missions.

Machado Ventura transmitted the PCC congratulations to the tens of thousands of youths who were able to become nominees and candidates.

In another part of his remarks, he told the delegates that this is a magnificent opportunity to see at close range the great problems that concern man and to express our militant solidarity to those who need it, to strengthen relations with the youth of the world and in this way have new revolutionary experiences. He stated that consistent and natural discipline should reign in the delegation, both in individual as well as in the collective behavior without refraining from being what they are, profound and happy, capable of fighting for a noble cause and to enjoy the great festival that the youth of the world have organized in our fatherland. He stressed that you are the main image of the revolution at the festival, the image of youth who live in socialism, and therefore you should show the firm management of arguments to defend or expound upon a point of view in your conversations.

Machado Ventura stated: We receive our friends in the world with all of the energy we have. Let us make clear to them that we have a heart full of solidarity, peace and friendship and that, along with them, we will struggle against imperialism and all types of exploitation, aware that the future belongs to those who are willing to struggle and fight, firm and sure of full confidence in victory.

CASTRO MEETS WITH AMERICAN SWIMMER

FL121239Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Jul 78 FL

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro yesterday afternoon received North American sportsman (Walter Poenisch) who will be trying to swim from Havana to Florida, a route that is 180 km long.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro had a brief meeting with (Walter Poenisch) before his departure and was concerned about his safety. He then wished him luck and escorted him several km out.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

CONGRESS RESERVES RIGHT TO EXAMINE ELECTION RECORDS

PA121951Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0512 GMT 12 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 11 Jul (AFP)--The Dominican National Congress today said it has reserved for itself the right to "examine the records of the presidential and vice presidential elections" so that "strictest fulfillment" will be given to the recent Central Electoral Board decision on the May elections.

The resolution was presented by Senate President Adriano Uribe Silva and approved by 20 votes to 2. The negative votes were those of two Reformist (progovernment) deputies.

Observers feel that this is a warning to the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), which decided to ask for annulment of the Electoral Board decision granting the Reformist (progovernment) Party five new seats in Congress.

The Senate is constitutionally empowered to examine the records of the presidential and vice presidential elections and to proclaim the victors.

HAVANA REPORTS ON SUPPORT FOR ELECTION RULING

PA130329Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jul 78 PA

[Text] The Dominican Armed Forces and police have declared their support for the decision reached by the Central Electoral Board which places the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] in the minority in the Congress. The decision stripped the PRD of four seats in the Senate and one in the Chamber of Deputies. However, it recognizes the victory of presidential candidate Antonio Guzman.

Observers have emphasized the fact that the Dominican Armed Forces and police are supporting a decision which leaves in the hands of the Reformist Party, headed by Joaquin Balaguer, control over congressional decisions.

GUYANA

BURNHAM CLAIMS OPPOSITION GUILTY OF AGITATION

FL121500Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 8 Jul 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Forbes Burnham has stated that the opposition forces were agitating violence and he warned that the security forces would take firm action if such a situation arises.

Addressing a public meeting at Rose Hall, Canje, Berbice last night, Cde. Burnham said that the PNC [People's National Congress] government was capable of suppressing all acts of violence and lawlessness.

He told the thousands of people present, including sugar workers and schoolchildren, that they must not be foolish and get involved in violence.

"I am a man of God. I am a man of peace. We want peace," the prime minister declared.

The PNC leader, in an emotional outburst, declared: "Come hell or highwater, the new constitution must come." This statement was greeted by loud cheering from the gathering.

Cde. Burnham also stated that in the proposed constitution the people would enjoy a better life. He said that there would be no liming or gambling on street corners.

He also gave the assurance that government would not take away people's houses on their bank accounts. But he stressed that he new constitution would bring an end to exploitation of man by man.

The prime minister stated that lawyers would not be allowed to charge fantastic fees and the doctors would also cease to exploit their patients.

Referring to political strikes on the sugar estates, Cde. Burhnam, who was described earlier by another speaker as 'the father of the nation,' said that any strike on the basis of the referendum would not be tolerated.

He urged the workers not to be fooled again by the opposition for, he said, they (the workers) would be the losers.

The PNC leader praised the sugar workers of Rose Hall estate for the tremendous progress they were making and appealed to them to continue in this vein throughout the years ahead.

He said that the prime minister of this country would be lacking in his duty if he could not save the economy of the country.

Speaking about the achievements of the government, the prime minister said that even the blind could see the tremendous progress--there is now free education from kindergarten to university level, free exercise and text books, housing schemes throughout the country, better roads, electricity, modern bridges, pure water supply and food outlets.

Cde. Burnham said that the opposition could not do anything for the people of this country; only the PNC was interested in helping the small man.

Other speakers who addressed the meeting were former GAWU [Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union] President Harry Lall, East Berbice regional minister Oscar Clarke and Member of Parliament Edith Bynoe.

At the end of the meeting the sugar workers presented a gift to the prime minister which depicts the progress of Rose Hall estate.

NETHERLANDS WILL COOPERATE IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

FL121505Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 8 Jul 78 p 24 FL

[Text] In an on-going programme of development co-operation, the Government of Guyana and the Government of the Netherlands have agreed to collaborate on several projects aimed at improving the education, health, housing and pure water supply services in Guyana.

In pursuance of this programme, the Government of the Netherlands has advised the Government of Guyana that it has approved an initial grant of G$7.0m. to be used for improving the following areas:

(1) Education: the sum of $2.0m. to be spent on:
(A) Providing nursery and primary schools in hinterland (particularly Amerindian) communities;
(B) Rehabilitating badly housed schools;
(C) Up-grading sanitary facilities for schools; and
(D) Constructing teachers' houses.
(2) Health: the sum of $3.0m. to be spent on:
(A) Constructing a hospital at Aishalton in the south savannahs, Rupununi region;
(B) Providing medical equipment for Long Creek Hospital, Linden Highway;
(C) Funding a programme for training community health workers.
(3) Pure Water Supply: the sum of $1.7m. to be spent on:
(A) Improving the pure water supply at Bartica;
(B) Rehabilitating existing wells and drilling new wells, particularly in rural and hinterland areas.
(4) Housing: $375,000 to be spent on:
(A) Rehabilitating the burnt out flats at Laing Avenue, Ruimvelot, and
(B) Developing a housing site at Corriverton.

Implementation of these projects would commence later this year.

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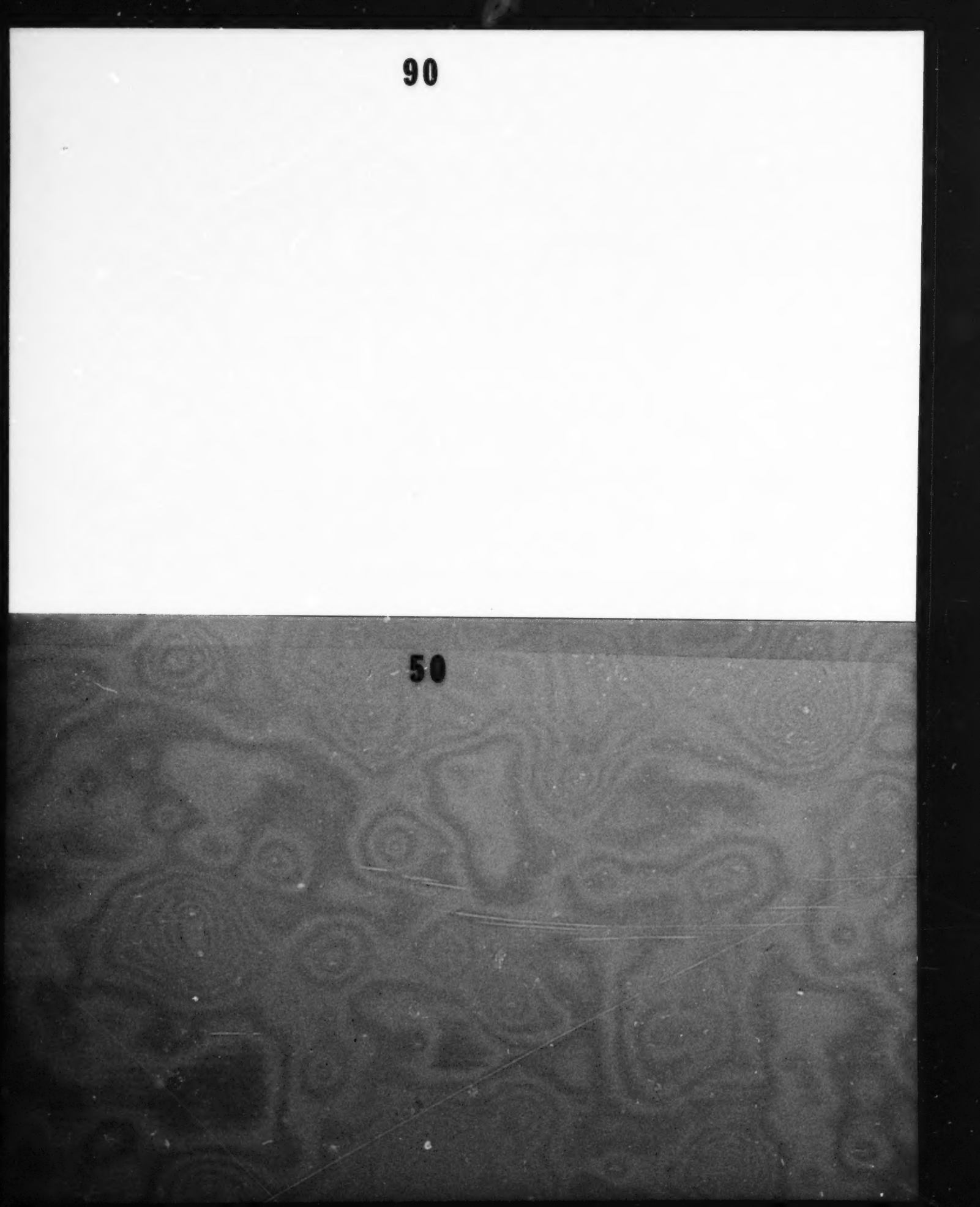
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